

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—October 20, 1999

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BEREUTER).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 20, 1999.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DOUG BEREUTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rabbi Robert J. Orkand, Temple Israel, Westport, Connecticut, offered the following prayer:

Let us pause in reverence before the gift of self, a gift freely given by God, the Creator. Let us pause in reverence before the mystery of the presence, the near and far reality of God. Let us pause in reverence before the gift of human purpose by which we would approach the mystery of God with deeds. Let us pause in reverence before the gift of life and the meaning of our being in this nexus of time's history. Let there be a divine reason for our presence so that the lives we touch may know a goodness and the days we live may be brighter for our compassion. And if our names be forgotten by those we serve, then at least may our works evoke an eternal amen.

And let faith be to us life and joy, let it be a voice of renewing challenge to the best we have and may be; let faith be for us a dissatisfaction with things that are; let faith bid us serve more eagerly the true and the right. Let faith be the sorrow that opens for us the way of sympathy, understanding and service to suffering humanity. Let faith be to us the wonder and lure of that which is only partly known and understood. Let it be an awe in the glories of nature's majesty and beauty and a heart that rejoices in deeds of kindness and of courage. Let our faith be for us hope and purpose and the discovery of opportunities to express our best through our daily tasks, both large and small. And let us say, Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that, I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. CAPPS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2841. An act to amend the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands to provide for greater fiscal autonomy consistent with other United States jurisdictions, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 974. An act to establish a program to afford high school graduates from the District of Columbia the benefits of in-State tuition at State colleges and universities outside the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1652. An act to designate the Old Executive Office Building located at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, in Washington, District of Columbia, as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building.

WELCOME TO RABBI ROBERT ORKAND

(Mr. SHAYS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to welcome Rabbi Robert Orkand and to thank him for his special opening prayer this morning.

It is also my pleasure to be given this opportunity to share this great man and community leader with my colleagues. For a quarter of a century Rabbi Orkand has been a source of wisdom, inspiration, and pride to his family, wife Joyce and son Seth, friends, congregation, and the larger community in which he lives. From Miami, Florida; to Rockford, Illinois; to Westport, Connecticut, his commitment to education, activism, and religious pluralism have benefited the lives of so many.

Rabbi Orkand's energy and compassion are testament to his dedication and to all that he believes and cherishes. On a national level, he is currently chair of the National Commission on Jewish Education of the Reform Movement, co-chair of the Rabbinic Cabinet of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, and a member of the Executive Board of the Rabbinic Cabinet of the United Jewish Appeal. And locally he is a member of the Human Services Commission of the Town of Westport and has served as past president of the United Way, a member of the Board of Directors of the United Jewish Appeal Federation, and president of the Westport-Weston Clergy Association. Rabbi Orkand has coauthored three prayer books for children, "Gates of Wonder", "Gates of Awe", and "A Child's Haggadah."

This House salutes Rabbi Orkand for his dedication to duty and his love of God and humanity. He has left a wonderful mark on his congregation and all the communities he has touched over the years. Rabbi Orkand is a man of God and a true healer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

MOTHER NATURE IS WARNING US—WE SHOULD LISTEN

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1